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Title : Need to provide funds for revival of Hindustan Photo Films set up in Ooty, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI M. APPADURAI (TENKASI): Hindustan Photo Films (HPF) set up in Ooty, Tamil Nadu has commenced its production in 1967. It produces the medical diagnostic films, namely Medical imaging film, mammographic film, scanner film, industrial X-ray films, Graphic Arts films, bromide paper and roll films for the photographic sector, Ariel film for Defence sector. All these products are produced by indigenous technology and are marketed by the brand name of 'INDU'.

It is the only one such industry in India and for that reason in entire ASIA. It is an ISO 9001-2000 certified company. It has all infrastructure facility with its employees in the factory premises. Around 1200 employees are working there.

It is the only company that produces X-ray films that are used by all Private and Government hospitals in allover India. But the Government is buying such X-ray films from abroad and spending lot of money in foreign exchange. On one side the company is made a loser and on the other the Government is losing foreign exchange. Recently, the Government has allotted Rs. 10 crore for VRS scheme for its employees. But no money has been allotted for the development of the company. The policy of the Government needs to be reviewed. Considering the plight of the employees sick company can be rejuvenated still.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to augment the utility value of the company. All the Government hospitals may be instructed to buy X-ray films only from HPF Company and Government must ban import of such x-ray film from abroad.